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### *Alleged Lobbying for Route May Sink Bids by 2 Airlines*

*By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter*

WASHINGTON—The Civil Aeronautics Board said it would investigate charges that two airlines improperly lobbied for civic support in a CAB proceeding over a Saipan-Tokyo route.

The CAB said the "fitness" of the two carriers, Pan American World Airways and Continental Airlines, for the route is under question. An adverse finding could disqualify them. Northwest Airlines, a third applicant, wasn't listed as involved in the influence charges.

A CAB administrative law judge had recommended Pan Am for the authority. But Pan Am and Continental have accused each other of improper attempts to influence public opinion in the Pacific trust territory islands, which include Saipan. The CAB remanded the case to the law judge for new hearings on the influence charges.

In Los Angeles, Robert F. Six, Continental's president, said, "We welcome this CAB investigation and . . . believe that Continental will be declared the carrier 'fit' for the award."

Pan Am didn't have any comment.